METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PASSWORD RE-ENTRY

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a method and apparatus for password re-entry. In one or more embodiments, the invention is in an environment wherein a password and data are input into the same document. In one embodiment, this environment is the Internet where a web browser displays the output of a web server in a form HTML document. When returning a password, the invention generates two unique identifiers that represent the entries in two password fields. Next, the invention re-constructs the form by including previously entered data in the new form and by substituting the two unique identifiers for the password fields. In one embodiment, the user can edit the password by modifying the unique identifier string. The original text of the password remains safely on the server. If the password is edited, the server compares the unique identifier strings re-sent in the encoded web page with the returned web page. In this way, the server detects a modified password while still maintaining the secrecy of the password.